

20 THE TURKS OF CENTRAL ASIA

101 another vague term, 'Tatar', has become so deeply rooted in European books on Asia, that there seems to be no hope of either of them ever being abandoned for the names by which the tribes of Central Asia call themselves.¹

Division of the Turkic-speaking peoples.

The ethnological evidence must now be examined, and to make what follows intelligible, it is necessary to preface some explanation of the broad division into Western and Eastern Turks which is here proposed.

By the term *Western Turks* is understood all the Turks—or people speaking Turkic languages, most of them subject to the Ottoman Empire—as far east as ● [161] Persia and Afghanistan. Their number is 8-9 millions.

The term *Eastern Turks* is used to embrace the people of Turkestan and Central Asia as far as Mongolia and China. Their number is about 10 millions.

There are also Turks in European Russia, viz. in the Crimea, in the Caucasus, and along the Volga, especially [161] round Kazan and Astrakhan. These number $3\frac{1}{2}$ -4 millions, including some of the Turkicized Finnic tribes of the Volga. Linguistically and politically they form one group with the Eastern Turks, with the exception of the Azerbaijan, who speak a Western Turkic [144] language. But in physical type and culture they are all now mixed with Eastern Europeans, to a slightly less degree than the Osmanly are with the South-Eastern Europeans. The Pan-Turanian programme

¹ It must be noted that, according to M. Joseph Halévy, the Turanians of Avesta and of Shâh Naméh were the Semites of Syria, because Syria was called Althura . . . Tura (C. E. Ujfalvy, *Les Aryens*, p. 49).